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LATE TESTIMONY

To:

The Honorable Jessica Wooley, Chair,

and Members of the House Committee on Culture & the Art

Date:

Saturday, February 4, 2012

Time:

9:30 A.M.

Place:

Conference Room 329, State Capitol

From:

Frederick D. Pablo, Director Department of Taxation

Re:

H.B. 2650, Relating to the Foundation on Culture and the Arts

The Department of Taxation (Department) appreciates the intent of H.B. 2650, but is opposed to the bill due to the impact it will have on the Department's limited budget and staffing resources, if adopted.

H.B. 2650 proposes to allow taxpayers with an income tax refund to make a donation to the newly established foundation on culture and the arts donation special fund.

While the Department understands and appreciates the intent of this bill, the Department cannot support any request which will require changes to its forms and computer system, unless the changes are essential for taxpayer compliance. As the Legislature is aware, the Department has an outdated computer system with significant functionality issues. Staffing resources necessary to develop and implement modifications to the system also are insufficient. As a result, the Department's limited resources must be prioritized to address other significant projects that will occur over the next few years. Therefore, the Department respectfully asks that no new projects be adopted.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.





No. 1 Capitol District Building 250 South Hotel Street Second Floor Honolulu, HI 96813

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Acting Comptroller Jan S. Gouveia

Chairperson Barbara Saromines-Ganne

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TESTIMONY OF STATE FOUNDATION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CULTURE & THE ARTS ON February 4, 2012

H. B. 2650

Chair Wooley and members of the committee, I am Eva Laird Smith, executive director of the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (SFCA) and I am pleased to offer testimony on H. B. 2650.

The SFCA greatly appreciates the intent of this bill, which will provide needed revenue incentives to support our programs and services. The fact that our ability to receive revenues from unique and diverse sources of funding also emphasizes the need to restore our accountant's position, which is requested in the administration's budget. Our agency received a 37% cut in staffing in FY 2010, which included the loss of 3.0 FTE or 75% of our fiscal administration. To be a fully functioning foundation, we need our fiscal integrity restored.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify before you.

belatti2 - Kate

From: Sent:

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov Friday, February 03, 2012 8:13 PM

To:

Cc: Subject:

CUAtestimony Brenda.Kosky@gmail.com Testimony for HB2650 on 2/4/2012 9:30:00 AM

Testimony for CUA 2/4/2012 9:30:00 AM HB2650

Conference room: 329

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Brenda Kosky Organization: Individual

E-mail: Brenda.Kosky@gmail.com

Submitted on: 2/3/2012

Comments:

LATE TESTIMONY